



Junior Camp 2026 – Rego Info Pack

Dear Parents/Guardians, and Camper,

Thank you for registering your child to be a part of this year's Junior Camp.

Our theme for this year is **Dive In** with our special guest speaker, **Pastor Jerome Masilamony**.

Pastor Jerome and his wife Esther live in Southern California with their cute dogs. Pastor Jerome loves K-pop and playing basketball. He and Pastor James have been friends for many years, and he would love to share funny stories about Pastor James with anyone who asks.

Dates and Transport:

When: April 7-12, 2026

Where: Mt Hutt Retreat, 437 Hard Road, Pudding Hill

Transport to/from Jr. Camp: Thank you for arranging for the transport of your child to and from Mt Hutt Retreat for drop-off and pick-up. We recommend touching base with other families to carpool.

Drop off and pick up times to/from Mt Hutt Retreat:

- 1. Drop Off – Tuesday 7 April (between 2:00pm-3:00pm)**
- 2. Pick Up – Sunday 12 April (between 10:00-11:30am)**

What to Bring:

Mt Hutt Retreat is often significantly cooler than areas of lower altitude. Please ensure your child has warm clothing for outdoor activities.

- Clothing:**

- Sports – clothes and shoes for running around inside and outside.
- Hiking – sturdy shoes/boots for wet/muddy conditions, waterproof jacket, wool hat, warm jersey, polypropylene top, water bottle, small backpack.
- Warm Clothes – for general outdoor activities. Please pack enough clothes for the duration of camp. Old clothes for getting muddy and dirty. Tidy clothes for inside the lodge and attending evening worships.
- Swimming – in case we go to the indoor pool, bring togs and a towel.
- Socks – it is always good practice to bring *more* socks than you anticipate needing to use in case the ones you have get wet.
- **Please label everything clearly as we often have lost and found items after camp.**

- **Footwear** – Warm sturdy shoes/boots for outdoor activities and light shoes for indoors.
- **Bedding** – Pillow, sleeping bag and/or duvet (dorms have heat pumps and are very warm).
- **Toiletries** – Soap, shower towel, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner, deodorant (please!)
- **Medicines** – As needed.
- **Water Bottle** – Please ensure this is clearly labelled.
- **Bible** – For use during worship.
- **Banquet Outfit** – Our Thursday night dinner is a special banquet. The theme is **UNDER THE SEA**. We invite all campers to bring something aquatic-themed. There will be prizes for most creative and best dressed. Please note that wearing a costume is optional, so campers are welcome to come as they are. *Please make sure all costumes are appropriate and modest.*

Contacting Your Child During Camp:

If you would like to contact your child or a staff member during Junior Camp, please use:

Greg Bell (Mt Hutt Caretaker) - 03-3028599

James Mello (Camp Director) - 021-192-8127 (please note limited cell phone coverage. Texting first is best).

** If your child would like to phone home, have them ask a member of the staff and we can arrange that for them. We want your child to have a positive experience at camp.*

Technology:

It is okay for your child to bring along their phone or other tech devices. BUT this is with the clear understanding these will only be used during free-time and not to be used during activities, worships, or sleep time. Campers who insist on using their devices at the incorrect times will receive two warnings and then have their device confiscated for the remainder of camp on the third warning. Mt Hutt Retreat and the South NZ Conference do not accept responsibility for loss or damage of devices – it is the full responsibility of the camper. We recommend devices be kept at home to prevent potential damage or loss.

Safety and Behavior:

The safety and wellbeing of your child is paramount to us. We have organised the best possible activities for the campers to encourage them to have fun, extend themselves, and create lifelong memories. In the unfortunate and unplanned event that an accident/illness occurs, we will get immediate medical attention for your child and contact you to inform you of what has happened.

Part of the safety of each camper is ensuring they are treated well by other campers and staff. We have a **zero-tolerance policy on bullying** and expect all staff and campers to show respect and love to each other. In the event where a camper breaches this expectation by threatening/harming the physical, mental, or emotional wellbeing of another camper, or threatens/harms their own wellbeing by refusing to follow camp rules or activity instructions, they will be taken out of the current activity and referred to the Camp Director, James Mello. If a camper continues to threaten/harm the wellbeing of another camper or themselves, we may need to send this camper home.

Mt Hutt is a smoke/vape-free, drug-free, alcohol-free, and violence-free campground. Any harmful substances and weapons will be confiscated, and action taken for those who bring these items to camp.

Questions:

The South NZ Conference Youth Ministry team runs the camps.

- Send inquiries or questions about the camp program to James Mello at the South NZ Conference Office – jamesmello@adventist.org.nz – 021-192-8127
- Send questions about registrations to Edwina Davis – EdwinaDavis@adventist.org.nz – 03-365-1020

Kind regards,

James Mello
Children & Youth Discipleship Leader
South New Zealand Conference